

CONSULATE AT PUERTO CORTEZ, HONDURAS.

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L E T T E R

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY,

TRANSMITTING

A COPY OF A COMMUNICATION FROM THE SECRETARY OF  
STATE SUBMITTING AN ESTIMATE OF APPROPRIATION FOR  
CONSULATE AT PUERTO CORTEZ, HONDURAS.

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JANUARY 7, 1902.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be  
printed.

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TREASURY DEPARTMENT,  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,  
*Washington, January 6, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith, for the consideration of Congress, copy of a communication from the Secretary of State, of the 3d instant, recommending the establishment of a United States consulate at Puerto Cortez, Honduras, and that provision be made in the diplomatic and consular bill for the fiscal year 1903 for the salary of a consul at Puerto Cortez, Honduras, at \$2,000 per annum.

Respectfully,

L. J. GAGE, *Secretary.*

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
*Washington, January 3, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to request that the following recommendation for the establishment of a consulate at Puerto Cortez, Honduras, be communicated to Congress for insertion in the estimates submitted by this Department for the diplomatic and consular service.

Puerto Cortez is the principal port of Honduras. In 1900 its exports to the United States amounted to \$933,638, and its imports from the United States amounted to \$387,627. The same year 190 steamers left Puerto Cortez for the United States.

American interests in Puerto Cortez are important, and there are over seven hundred citizens of the United States residing there, many of them with families, and with the intention of remaining.

Great Britain, Spain, and Germany are represented at Puerto Cortez by consuls, while the United States has only a consular agent, though its consular business is greater than that of all countries combined. The number of the duties performed by the consular agent of the United States may in part be inferred from the fees collected, which amounted in 1900 to over \$1,600.

The interests of our commerce and our citizens and the proper enforcement of our sanitary laws and regulations make it very desirable that this Government be represented at Puerto Cortez by a salaried consul, who can devote all of his time to his consular duties. I therefore recommend that a consulate with a salary of \$2,000 a year be established at Puerto Cortez.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN HAY.

The SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

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